Office of the Premier

2013/14 – 2015/16
SERVICE PLAN

February 2013

For more information on the
British Columbia Office of the Premier
see Contact Information on Page 13 or contact:

Office of the Premier
PO BOX 9041
STN PROV GOVT
VICTORIA, BC
V8W 9E1

or visit our website at
www.gov.bc.ca/premier

Published by the Office of the Premier

Message from the Premier and Accountability Statement

I am pleased to present the Service Plan for the Office of the Premier.

The past year has seen economic challenges around the world, but here in B.C., we've continued to make tough decisions to control spending and balance the budget. We do that not as an end in itself, but to ensure that your government can continue to make investments in the vital services that families depend on to get ahead, like education, healthcare and transportation. We also know that fiscal discipline provides the best protection for B.C.'s strong economy, so that our families can secure and build a brighter future.

Success in the future is determined by the decisions we make today. For instance, last February your government launched the LNG Strategy and in less than a year, we have seen global companies invest billions of dollars in B.C. Our province is blessed with a plentiful supply of natural gas and we know how to recover it safely. My focus is on doing the work that's required now to make sure B.C. wins the global race to be a leading supplier of cleaner energy to the world.

Our *BC Jobs Plan* is about opening foreign markets for our goods, with a particular focus on expanding our trade relationships with the rapidly-growing economies of the Pacific Rim. Combined with our proven record of sound fiscal management, this is creating unprecedented opportunities for international investment across B.C. This included Trade Missions to Japan, Korea and the Philippines, the Canada-China Investment Summit, our involvement with the Canada-China Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement, and opening the Hong Kong Trade and Investment Office.

To ensure British Columbians are first in line to take advantage of global opportunities coming our way, your government has made significant investments in skills training. In addition to working with a wide variety of post-secondary institutions, government has invested in a number of programs to help aspiring young and Aboriginal entrepreneurs, and those looking to pursue trades careers in growing industries.

To help all families, we are seeking a ten year agreement with teachers, to ensure the highest quality education without labour disruptions. Through the Families First Agenda, government has worked to increase family affordability, as well as working with students, experts and stakeholders to combat bullying.

We believe in working with British Columbians, and creating an environment where they can find success.

The *Office of the Premier 2013/14 – 2015/16 Service Plan* was prepared under my direction, in accordance with the *Budget Transparency and Accountability Act*. I am accountable for the basis on which the plan has been prepared and for achieving the specific objectives in this plan.

Honourable Christy Clark
Premier
February 6, 2013

Table of Contents

Premier's Accountability Statement 3

Purpose of the Office of the Premier 5

Strategic Context 6

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Measures 7

Resource Summary 12

Office of the Premier Contact Information 13

Hyperlinks to Additional Information 13

Purpose of the Office of the Premier

The Premier serves as the President of the Executive Council (Cabinet) of the Government of British Columbia. The Premier is regulary advised by the Deputy Minister to the Premier and Cabinet Secretary of the range of activities undertaken to facilitate cross-agency coordination of policy advice and implementation. These activities include regular meetings of departmental deputy ministers to share information over policy directions; meetings with counterpart central agency executives; and interdepartmental coordination of a wide range of policy priorities.

The Office assists the Premier in overseeing and leading the government as a whole. In addition, it supports the Cabinet decision-making process. As a central agency, the Office of the Premier has a clear role to play in promoting effective policy coordination across the public service. Ministers need to have complete trust in the quality of the advice and support the Office offers on the proper conduct of government business within accepted conventions and practices.

There continues to be growing emphasis on enhanced coordination across a range of government departments. The use of effective planning supports improved efficiencies through joint inter-agency cooperation.

The Office:

- Articulates government's goals, commitments and priorities and works with ministries and Crown agencies to ensure communication of those goals, commitments and priorities and to track and monitor implementation of them;
- Leads the public service and, with the Deputy Ministers' Council, leads implementation of the corporate human resource plan for the BC Public Service, *Being the Best* and *Citizens @ the Centre: BC Government 2.0*, a transformation and technology strategy for the BC Public Service;
- Provides support for the operations and decision-making processes of Cabinet and its Committees; and,
- Works directly with the federal government and with all ministries and Crown agencies to ensure that relations with federal, provincial, territorial and international governments advance British Columbia's interests.

Strategic Context

The Government Strategic Plan outlines government's efforts to achieve government's vision to be a prosperous and just province, whose citizens are happy, healthy and have confidence in the future. A key component to the success of the province hinges on our ability to be innovative and forward looking, and to plan and implement for the future. Strong and clear leadership is required to implement the goals and activities of government. The Office of the Premier leads and supports ministries and Crown agencies to implement government's agenda.

It is important that services to citizens are provided in an integrated, timely and seamless manner. This is done through collaboration across government ministries and agencies. Government has a Cabinet Working Group on Family Affordability, and Cabinet Committees on Families First; Jobs and Skills Training; Open Government and Engagement; and Environment and Land Use to further support efficient service delivery.

The BC Public Service is made up of approximately 30,000 professionals dedicated to supporting the people and communities of our province every day. As we move ahead through this period of economic uncertainty, the focus is to optimize the investment of existing human resources while maintaining focus on the longer term objective of ensuring the necessary supply of skilled staff for the future. Maintaining a high quality of service will require development of strategies to ensure an engaged workforce is able to meet the challenges of the introduction of new technologies, the increasing diversity of our communities, a growing population, and the shifting expectations British Columbians have of public services.

Ensuring that the relationship between Canada and British Columbia remains strong and constructive is fundamental to securing the economic and social well-being of our citizens. The Province will remain engaged with the federal government on issues such as health care innovation, seamless permitting for major projects in the province and creating a strong and stable labour supply from both inside and outside of our borders. We will continue to work cooperatively with the federal government on the issues that matter most to BC families.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Measures

Goal 1: Government's priorities are implemented

Objective 1.1: Ministries and Crown Agency activities are integrated and aligned with government's priorities

Strategies

- Lead and support the Executive Council in the successful development and implementation of the Government Strategic Plan.
- Clearly articulate priorities of government in the Strategic Plan and assist all ministries to develop strategies to achieve the goals and priorities established in the Strategic Plan.
- Administer government's accountability framework by supporting ministries and Crown agencies in developing service plans and annual service plan reports to ensure they advance Government's Strategic Plan.
- Guide the successful delivery of ministry and Crown agency mandates by providing direction and resolving issues requiring senior government input.
- Address priority issues on behalf of Executive Council and manage issues that arise in the delivery of programs and services.

Performance Measure 1: Performance agreements in place for Deputy Ministers and Associate Deputy Ministers

Performance Measure	Benchmark	2013/14 Forecast	2013/14 Target	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target
Performance agreements in place for Deputy Ministers and Associate Deputy Ministers.	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data Source: BC Public Service Agency

Discussion

Within government's accountability framework there are strategies in place for all government staff, from front line workers to Deputy Ministers. The Office of the Premier is administratively responsible for the performance agreements that are in place with Deputy Ministers.

There are multiple interlinking layers to government's accountability framework. The Government Strategic Plan sets out the overall priorities and goals that illustrate the Province's vision for the future. Ministry service plans have goals, objectives, strategies and performance measures with targets to accomplish those goals for the upcoming three-year period. These plans are tabled in the legislature with the budget in February of each year. In June, government, ministries and Crown agencies report on their achievements of the previous fiscal year in their service plan annual report.

Goal 2: The public service is well positioned to deliver government programs for British Columbians

Objective 2.1: BC Public Service Corporate Human Resource Plan *Being the Best* goals are realized

Strategies

- Continue to develop *Being the Best*, the Corporate Human Resource Plan for the BC Public Service.
- Build new strategies and update *Being the Best* annually based on feedback and results.

Performance Measure 2: BC Public Service is recognized as a top employer

Performance Measure	2012/13 Actual	2013/14 Target	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target
BC Public Service is recognized as a top employer in British Columbia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Data Source: Ministry of Citizens' Services and Open Government

Discussion

In 2006, the Corporate Human Resource Plan, *Being the Best*, was developed by the Deputy Ministers' Council, led by the Deputy Minister to the Premier. The Council is committed to achieving the status of the B.C. Government as a top employer through annual updates to and continued implementation of the plan with the involvement of the BC Public Service. The BC Public Service has been recognized as one of:

- B.C.'s Top Employers for 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013
- Canada's Top 100 Employers for 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013
- Canada's Top Family Friendly Employers for 2010, 2011 and 2013
- Canada's Greenest Employers for 2010, 2011 and 2012

Goal 3: Cabinet and Cabinet Committees are able to make timely and well-informed decisions

Objective 3.1: Cabinet and its Committees are supported with timely and effective advice

Strategies

- Support Cabinet and its Committees by ensuring they have appropriate advice on key policy, program and legislative initiatives, which align with government priorities, including an ability to measure the success of the initiatives.
- Effectively provide necessary and the appropriate logistical support for the operations and decision-making process of Cabinet and its Committees.
- Continue to use technologies and tools to improve efficiencies in the logistical support of Cabinet and its Committees.

Performance Measure 3: Cabinet receives timely advice on all key public policy recommendations and plans

Performance Measure	2006/07 Baseline	2013/14 Forecast	2013/14 Target	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target
Cabinet receives timely advice on all key public policy recommendations and plans	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data Source: Cabinet Operations

Discussion

Currently, there are eight Cabinet Committees in the Government of British Columbia each making recommendations to Cabinet on specific priorities falling within their respective mandates For example, the Cabinet Committee on Families First brings together key government ministries to build family focus into government operations.

All major policies, programs and initiatives are reviewed by Cabinet or a Cabinet Committee to ensure alignment with government strategic priorities.

Cabinet Committees and ministries provide prompt and effective advice enabling timely and well informed Cabinet decisions benefitting British Columbians.

Goal 4: Government is successful in achieving its intergovernmental relations objectives.

Objective 4.1: British Columbia's priorities are advanced through leadership in intergovernmental, bilateral and multilateral partnerships and international relations.

Strategies

- Engage the federal government in achieving BC priorities.
- Strengthen partnerships with other provinces through bilateral and multilateral co-operation on shared priorities discussed at the Council of the Federation and other Premiers' meetings.
- Positively influence the policies and programs of other governments that affect the interests of British Columbia through enhanced economic, cultural and diplomatic ties and programs.
- Establish regional leadership, shared economic and environmental priorities, such as action on jobs and border management, through joint Cabinet meetings with the State of Washington, the Pacific Coast Collaborative, and British Columbia's participation in the Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER).

Performance Measure 4: Progress on Intergovernmental Relations key issues

Performance Measure	Benchmark	2012/13 Forecast	2013/14 Target	2014/15 Target	2015/16 Target
Progress on key issues in Intergovernmental Relations Plan	Progress on key issues	Progress achieved on key issues	Progress on key issues	Progress on key issues	Progress on key issues

Data Source: Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat

Discussion

Each year, the Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat updates its plan with key objectives and major projects, which typically take more than one fiscal year to measure progress. For 2012/13, progress was made on all new initiatives.

The key objectives identified in the intergovernmental plan for 2013/14 are:

- Increase intergovernmental engagement at senior levels in order to advance British Columbia's interests with the federal government, within the Canadian federation and with the United States and other priority countries, including use of telepresence and other technologies.
- Engage and participate in initiatives with provinces and territories through the Council of the Federation.

- Advance bilateral collaboration, focusing on jobs and economic growth, with the State of Washington and other neighbouring states and provinces through joint leaders, cabinet and/or senior officials meetings and initiatives.
- Engage with other governments and private sector members of PNWER to promote actions in support of keeping the Canada-US border open for legitimate trade and tourism and building regional consensus on actions that increase economic opportunities for BC families in areas such as clean energy.
- Leverage the shared goals and objectives of the Pacific Coast Collaborative set out in British Columbia's agreements with the states of California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska to implement the regional jobs strategy that was an outcome of the 2012 Leaders Forum.
- Work across government, with BC stakeholders, with the federal government, and US federal and state agencies to facilitate the management of transboundary environmental and resource management concerns consistent with the Province's high environmental standards.
- Promote Pacific Gateway transportation investments and policy changes so that Canada benefits from Asia-Pacific market opportunities.
- Advance the Province's priorities by engaging with foreign governments, the Consular Corps in British Columbia, Diplomatic Corps in Ottawa, and Canadian representatives posted abroad.
- Support citizen engagement through the Order of British Columbia, Congratulatory Messages Program, and Ceremonies.
- Sign and implement the cooperation agreement with the federal government on official languages.

Resource Summary

Core Business Area	2012/13 Restated Estimates[1]	2013/14 Estimates[2]	2014/15 Plan	2015/16 Plan
Operating Expenses ($000)				
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat	2,456	2,456	2,456	2,456
Executive and Support Services.....	6,552	6,552	6,552	6,552
Office of the Premier.....	3,231	3,231	3,231	3,231
Executive Operations.....	3,321	3,321	3,321	3,321
Total	9,008	9,008	9,008	9,008
Ministry Capital Expenditures (Consolidated Revenue Fund) ($000)				
Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat	0	0	0	0
Executive and Support Services.....	1	1	1	1
Office of the Premier.....	0	0	0	0
Executive Operations.....	1	1	1	1
Total	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**

[1] For comparative purposes, amounts shown for the 2012/13 have been restated to be consistent with the presentation of the 2013/14 Estimates.

[2] Further information on program funding and vote recoveries is available in the Estimates and Supplement to the Estimates.

Premier's Office Contact Information

Office of the Premier
PO BOX 9041 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W 9E1
Telephone: 250 387-1715

Cabinet Operations
PO BOX 9487 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W 9E1

Intergovernmental Relations Secretariat
PO BOX 9433 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W 9V3

Hyperlinks to Additional Information:

Office of the Premier: www.newsroom.gov.bc.ca/ministries/office-of-the-premier/

Associated Organizations:

BC Public Service Agency: www.bcpublicserviceagency.gov.bc.ca/

Government Communications and Public Engagement: www.gov.bc.ca/gcpe